



Keith Holtam and Julie Holtam, author of Tea with Ellen (in Senior Stories).



David Hill and Kylie Hill, Book Cover Artist.



The book launch took place at Brothers Leagues Club in Ipswich.

Able to tell their stories

By Camille Brandon

Able Australia launched its second annual Senior Stories book at Brothers Leagues Club on 25 October.

The book gives a voice to seniors and their incredible stories.

Within the pages there are stories of driving 100 miles per hour in a Morris Minor, being a Prisoner of War, growing up on a cane farm and more.

Local Ipswich artist Kylie Hill, a proud Aboriginal woman, designed the book cover.

Able Australia's Community Project Manager Jessy Byrnes was the editor of the book.

She said everyone and their stories touched her heart beyond words.

"Everyone has a unique and individual story worth telling about how they have experienced the world," Jessy said.

"There is a great power in sharing our stories, as it is our stories that live on forever."

Guest speaker Janet Rawlings spoke of her friend Dexter Kruger, Australia's oldest man, who passed away at 111 years old in May this year.

One of his stories features in this year's Senior Stories book.

He finished his story with this; "Think! Really it's all about what's going on up here, in your head. That determines where you are and how you will be."



Claudia Cunningham, Alla Craigie, author of My Blue 'Mini' and Me (in Senior Stories), June Hopkins, Yvonne Hurst, Vivienne Cole and Shayne Neumann MP



Janet Rawlings with Dexter Kruger's autobiography.

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Karen Thorpe, Trish Nicholson, Barbara King, Sue Gardhan, Jennifer Edelman, Helen Reich, Corina Schafranek and Jeff Thorpe, author of Heading West (in Senior Stories).